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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kirwan et al.  
Serial No: 09/744,698  
Confirmation No: 3328  
Filed: May 14, 2001  
For: UNIVERSAL MODULAR SURGICAL APPLICATOR  
SYSTEMS  
Examiner: Roz Ghafoorian  
Art Unit: 3763

*Amber* #10  
*S. B. (S.E.)*  
*10/21/03*

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**RESPONSE**

In response to the Final Office Action mailed June 3, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the following remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this amendment.

**Remarks** begin on page 10 of this amendment.